

Smokeless Powder Authorities Open Meeting at Arsenal

Top authorities on smokeless powder and high explosives met today at the first of several meetings at the Joliet arsenal.

More than two score of the country's leading authorities representing America's top industrial companies and the army, navy and air force, will discuss reports submitted on various studies whereby industry can cooperate in solution of ordnance defense problems, and coordinate industrial resources so that maximum production can be quickly obtained in event of national emergency.

Brig. Gen. Joel G. Holmes, field director, opened the conference. He discusses function of the field director's office in the over-all defense program.

HENRY N. MARSH of Hercules Powder company and John M. Skilling of E. I. duPont de Nemours and company are committee co-chairman. They conducted panel discussions on matters of joint interest to industry and the national defense establishment.

Among the industrialists attending will be R. C. Burton, Tennessee Eastman corporation, J. E. Caskey, Naugatuck Chemical company, L. B. Fraser, Fraser-Brace Engineering company, Dr. C. R. McCullough, Monsanto Chemical company, Dr. Fred Olson, N. A. Hamilton, J. J. O'Neill, Olin industries, Dr. W. O. Sneling, Trojan Powder company, C. Y. Thomas, Spencer Chemical company, C. E. Watts, Commercial Solvents corporation, Henry N. Marsh and John T. Moore, Hercules Powder company, John M. Skilling, E. I. du Pont de Nemours and company, C. H. Carter and John Jeffries, Atlas Powder company, W. G. Lothrop, Arthur D. Little, Inc., S. F. Spangler, Chemical Construction company.

GEN. BURTON O. Lewis will represent the American Ordnance Association. Representing the army ordnance department will be, Col. Merl H. Davis, W. F. Stevenson, Dr. R. O. Bengis, John Washnack, Henry LaTourette, Lt. Col. H. G. Davisson, J. D. Hopper, C. S. Davis, C. L. Moder, C. F. Ritzer and G. H. Mitchel, Jr. The navy bureau of ordnance will be

represented by Commander J. H. Brandt, F. F. Dick and F. Z. Hough. Col. Fairfax and W. Savage of air force will attend. Joliet Arsenal representatives will be Lt. Colonel R. C. Costabile, commanding officer, N. W. Hazen, George Doyle, J. E. Whitley and Robert Overall.

In addition to Gen. Holmes, the Field Director's conferees will include Maj. O. M. Hirsch, executive officer, Lt. Col. T. L. Gaines, chief, safety and security division; J. N. Pearre, chief, operations and engineering division, E. J. Cottrell, chief, inspection division; Duncan C. Smith, chief, powder, explosives and chemical branch, and other representative members of the staff.